

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WINNIP 00006 081820Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 INT-05 IO-13 SAL-01 OMB-01

TRSE-00 EB-07 /073 W

-----081821Z 114818 /41

P 081720Z JAN 77

FM AMCONSUL WINNIPEG

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1792

UNCLAS WINNIPEG 0006

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, CA

SUBJ: GARRISON DIVERSION PROJECT -- MEDIA REACTION

1. BOTH WINNIPEG DAILIES GAVE PROMINENT COVERAGE JAN 7 TO WIRE STORY FROM MINNEAPOLIS REPORTING IJC FINDINGS THAT POLLUTANTS FROM NORTH DAKOTA S CONTROVERSIAL GARRISON DIVERSION PROJECT WILL CAUSE WIDESPREAD HARM TO CANADIAN WATERS AND FISHERIES UNLESS U.S. UNDERTAKES COSTLY PROJECT MODIFICATIONS.

2. CITING ADVANCE COPY OF 2,000-PAGE REPORT, STORIES INDICATE IT WOULD COST AT LEAST DOLS 57 MILLION TO MAKE CHANGES, AND GO ON TO TICK OFF PREDICTED DAMAGES TO MANITOBA WATERS:

-- DOLS 3 MILLION LOSS TO COMMERCIAL FISHERIES ON LAKES WINNIPEG AND MANITOBA,
-- LARGE COMMERCIAL AND SPORT FISHING LOSSESS ON OTHER LAKES,
-- REDUCE BY HALF ANNUAL FISH TAKE USED FOR FOOD BY INDIAN AND METIS TRIBES,
-- INTRODUCE TWO FISH DISEASES AND ONE FISH PARASITE INTO MANITOBA WATERS,
-- INCREASE UNDESIRABLE ALGAE IN SOURIS RIVER,
-- CAUSE NEGATIVE IMPACTS ON RED RIVER,
-- INCREASE MUNICIPAL WATER TREATMENT COSTS IN MANITOBA FROM
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DOLS 59,000 TO DOLS 2 MILLION ANNUALLY,
-- REDUCE CANADIAN DUCK POPULATION.

3. POTENTIAL BENEFITS FROM INCREASED WATER FLOWS TO SOURIS RIVER WHICH WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR IRRIGATION IN MANITOBA ARE RECOGNIZED,

BUT ARE MENTIONED ONLY IN CONCLUDING PARAGRAPHS OF STORY.

4. COMMENT: ADDING FUEL TO THE FIRE WILL BE A JAN 16 CBC-TV NETWORK DRAMATIZATION ENTITLED SOMEDAY SOON , -- A 'JOURNALISTIC DRAMAS -- BASED ON WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IF GARRISON PROJECT IS CARRIED THROUGH. THE DRAMA IS FICTION, BUT PRODUCER EXPECTS IT WILL SHOCK MANY VIEWERS AS THEY WATCH A GROUP OF FARMERS WHO SEE THEIR SOUTHERN MANITOBA FARMS FLOODED WITH SALINE WATER, POLLUTING THEIR WELLS AND MAKING THEIR GROUND STERILE. FRUSTRATED, THEY APPARENTLY DECIDE TO TAKE EVENTS INTO THEIR OWN HANDS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, WATER POLLUTION, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), WATER DIVERSION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Format: TEL
From: WINNIPEG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770168/aaaachrl.tel
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TAGS: SENV, CA
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